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It is the best of that character we have yet seen; no farmer should be without it.—*Democrat, Carlisle, Pa.*

This is just such a book as every owner of stock should be possessed of.—*Easton, Md., Star.*

Here is a book which all—those who follow the plow, and those who direct it—can read to profit. It is a library of knowledge, presenting the latest improvements and discoveries, on all the topics treated of; and illustrated by a great variety of cuts. The "Aliens" one of whom is the author of the work before us, are quite famous in their especial *rule*, so that what proceeds from them may be confidently credited at all events. The present book is a most interesting and instructive one and must meet with great sale.—*Scioto Gazette.*

It will give impulse, encouragement, and success to every one fond of raising fine, healthful and profitable farm animals. Every such farmer may be sure of real pleasure and profit in studying the book. The young sons and daughters of farmers will find evenings well and pleasantly spent in gaining from it the information for which they will have practical use the rest of their lives.—*Old Colony Memorial.*

Most earnestly do we wish that every agriculturist, in our section, would possess himself of this really interesting book, and abide by its precepts. Sure, are we, that the result would soon be exhibited in an improvement of stock generally.—*Parkersburg, Va., Gazette.*

This work, to the farmer and stock raiser, will be useful, instructive, and profitable, enabling them to improve the breed of their stock, preserve them from sickness, and cure them when infected with disease.—*Herald, Morrisville, Pa.*

The time has gone by when farmers can expect to *succeed* without giving some attention to Book Farming, and we trust they begin to see it themselves. We should like to know that this work was in the hands of every farmer in the county.—*Mercury Potsdam, N. Y.*

The individual who is seeking general information, will peruse it with pleasure, while the farmer who desires to gain practical knowledge will read it with interest. The farmer who would carry on operations successfully in his line, should not be without it.—*Signal Belfast, Me.*

The title page of this work gives a good idea of its scope and intent. It is a comprehensive summary of farm operations, and will prove very acceptable to the great mass of our farming population. We are informed that 3,000 copies of the work have been sold since the first of January. It is well printed and profusely illustrated.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

It is furnished with numerous illustrating cuts, and will form a complete "vade mecum" for the agriculturist, convenient for reference and to be relied on when consulted.—*Baltimore American.*

This is a practical book by a practical man and will serve extensive practical ends. It is a companion which every farmer will feel that he cannot well be without.—*N. Y. Observer.*

We cheerfully recommend this work to farmers.—*Signal Juliet Ill.*

We anticipate an extensive sale for this work.—*Ohio Cultivator.*

The work ought to be in the hands of every planter.—*N. O. Delta.*

The author is a gentleman of fine attainments, and who ranks as one of the most accomplished writers on agricultural subjects in the country.—*Ala. Planter.*

Many a valuable animal is lost every year, for want of the knowledge here conveyed.—*Eagle, Brattleboro, Vt.*

The author (Mr. Allen,) is a practical man, and everything from his pen, on subjects connected with agriculture and cattle breeding is valuable to those who prefer matter of fact to mere theory.

The work comes at seventy-five cents. The information contained in it is worth three times that amount. His directions for the management of the dairy will be of great service to those not versed in that important art.—*Maine Farmer.*

Leisure Hours.

How few, comparatively, of the laboring class realize the importance of turning to useful account their leisure hours. Speak to them upon the subject, and they will tell you, that they "have no time to read." But how is it that some of the profoundest scholars of every age and country, stars of the first magnitude in the intellectual firmament, made themselves what they were, by improving the intervals of leisure they enjoy'd from the labors of the plow, the hammer, the loom, the awl, or the anvil.

Not that every laboring man should aspire to such distinction. He may have neither time nor ability to accomplish such results. But these instances most clearly show, that the true reason why such multitudes in like circumstances, neglect the improvement of their minds, and suffer them to run to waste, is not because they "have no time to read," but because they lack the *disposition*.

And that it should be so, is the more marvellous, as every man, even the most ignorant, prides himself mainly upon the intellectual part of his nature, and that about in proportion to the predominence of his intellectual deficiencies.

It would seem as though no argument would be necessary to induce persons in the most unfavorable circumstances conceivable to make use of every moment of leisure they enjoy from their daily toil, to elevate and improve that part of their natures, which constitutes the chief glory of their being, and which in conjunction with their moral sensibilities, distinguishes them from the lower orders of creation.

There is no dotage, no second childhood, to a mind thus intent upon its own improvement. Its faculties, so long as they are kept in exercise, remain burnished and bright, retaining their full vigor, even in extreme old age, while those of the intellectual sloth, become comatose as he advances in life, until, not unfrequently he scarcely exhibits a trace even of his former very moderate degree of intellectuality.

We have been lead to these remarks by the following paragraphs which we find in the Boston Cultivator.

Elihu Burritt.

The London correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune, writing from London, April 7, 1848, says:

The learned Blacksmith, Elihu Burritt, delivered a lecture last week at Exeter Hall, in the large room. I was there a few minutes before nine o'clock, and about half an hour after the lecturer had commenced. The immense room was so densely crowded that I could not find a seat. There was one mass of up-turned heads. Mr. Burritt was standing with one hand resting upon the railing, and with the other he held a manuscript, from which he was reading. His subject was the "*Philosophy of Labor.*" The lecture was intended for the especial benefit of the numerous clerks of the metropolis, and of this class the audience was mainly formed.—They were very attentive and frequently applauded the fine sentiments of the speaker. Toward the close of the lecture, Mr. Burritt rose to the sublime in his lofty flights, and quite charmed his audience. There were prolonged and deafening plaudits, at the termination of some of his periods. His language was extremely simple, but refined and elevating, and touched the heart of every one present. Mr. Burritt appeared to be quite overcome by one tremendous shout of applause that followed one of his happiest sentiments. The audience would scarcely permit him to proceed, they were so carried away by his eloquence. I was no less gratified than surprised to witness this enthusiasm of Englishmen toward my countryman, and one who so modestly calls himself "a blacksmith!" Hundreds of young men who listened to Mr. Burritt would gladly beat *red hot iron* if they could beat from their minds such brilliant and soul stirring sentiments as they heard flow so calmly and beautifully from the lips of Burritt, "the Blacksmith!"

From the St. Joseph Advertiser.

Wool Growing in Michigan.

A. E. Massey—Sir: As I have been engaged for some two or three years in experimenting in Wool growing, on a small scale, on my farm in Sherman township, in the county of St. Joseph and as it has been a question with Michigan agriculturists whether fine Sheep could be successfully introduced into our rigorous climate, I think it is due to the public that I should state the result of my experiment, in order to promote the Wool growing interests of the country, and encourage agriculturists to engage in the business. I therefore avail myself of the medium of your paper to give to the public that result:

In the spring of 1844, A. Perrin, Esq., brought on to his farm two Bucks, one of which he sold to A. Goodridge, of Centreville, and 'Dick' which I now own. In 1846 I brought in two Bucks that I now own, 'Consul' and 'Fortune,' and a number of other sheep. These Bucks I bought from the flock of William Perrin of Livingston county, New York, whose stock was obtained from Mr. Jarvis imported stock in the state of Vermont. They are of the Merino breed. These sheep, with the ewes of the same stock, I have managed and kept with the same care that I have been accustomed to bestowing on sheep generally.—The fleeces the first year averaged four pounds and three quarters; the second year four pounds and a half, there being more lambs in the flock than the preceeding year; and the third the same, (reckoning lambs;) the flock is all ewes and lambs, except the bucks above named.

'Fortunes' first fleece was 5 pounds and 7 ounces; his second 7 1-2 lbs., his third 8 lbs. 7 ounces.

'Consul's' first fleeece weighed 6 1-2 pounds his second 8 3-4; his third, 9 1-2 lbs.

'Dicks' fleece, the first time I sheared him which was at two years old, weighed 8 and three quarter pounds; the second fleece I sheared weighed 11 lbs. 5 oz.; the third, 12 lbs. and the fourth, 13 1-4 lbs.; which I have just shorn from him.

The aggregate number of pounds shorn from these three bucks, the current year, is 31 1-4 lbs.

The whole flock of sheep number fifty; the first year I sold my Wool for 35 cts. per pound: my last years wool was sorted, and sold in Eastern markets at from 39 to 42 cents per pound, but

out of the crop I reserved for my use eight fleeces of the best quality. My sheep are large for Merinoes, and stand the rigors of our Northern winters as well as any other sheep.

That there may be doubt in the minds of your readers touching the weight of the fleece of Dick for the present year, I have appended hereunto the affidavit of persons who witnessed the shearing and weighing of the same.

ERASTUS CHAPIN.

Sherman, May 27, 1848.

STATE OF MICHIGN, } ss
St. Joseph County, }

Before the undersigned, a Notary Public in and for said county, this day appeared Samuel Tyler and William Bryant, who being by me duly sworn, depose and say, that they saw Mr. Erastus Chapin's Merino Buck, 'Dick,' shorn on the 26th day of May, inst., that they severally and separately weighed the same, and that the said fleece weighed thirteen pounds and one quarter, and further say not.

SAMUEL TYLER.
Wm. C. BRYANT.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 27th day of May, 1848.

S. C. COFFINBERY.
Notary Public.

Floriculture.

Flowers are the ornaments of vegetable life, and have in all ages been cultivated by persons of leisure and taste, for the pleasure they yield to the eye and the fancy. While generally healthful and exhilerating from being pursued in the open air, floriculture is justly considered to be a fine and harmless recreation, which by leading to tranquil contemplation of natural beauty, and diverting the mind from gross worldly occupations, has a positively moral, and therefore highly beneficial tendency. It has also the advantage of being alike open to the pursuit of high and low, rich and poor, the over toiled man of business and the industrious mechanic. It may be followed with equal enjoyment by individuals of both sexes, and, as is well known, on every imaginable scale, from that of a single flower-pot or ornamental border, to the princely green-house and the exquisitely varied parterre. The natural grace, simplicity, and attractive coloring of flowers, have afforded endless themes for moralists and poets, and volumes have been written to show how many associations of feeling simple and sublime, these beauteous objects are calculated to excite. As our desire is to improve the understanding, we hope to be excused for pausing an instant over this agreeable view of the flower-culture. Few natural objects are more poetical, or more calculated to refine the taste than flowers. "From the majestic sun-flower, towering above her sisters of the garden, and faithfully turning to welcome the god of day, to the little humble and well-known weed that is said to close its eye before impending showers, there is scarcely one flower which may not from its loveliness, its perfume, its natural situation, or its classical association, be considered highly poetical."—*Amer. Jour. of Agriculture and Science.*

Improvement of Sandy and Gravelly Soils.—Mr Adam Anthony, of North Providence, furnishes the officers of the Rhode Island Society for the Encouragement of Domestic Industry, an account of the mode in which he has very successfully improved his farm. The farm consists of 150 acres, but deducting 50 acres of wood, 18 in a "natural pasture," and 10 in wet meadow, there is but 72 acres suitable for tillage or hoed crops. The principal portion of these 72 acres, is "very sandy, with a subsoil of sand and gravel," and was originally very poor. Mr. A. took possession of the farm in 1826. "The crops of that year, were 5 tons of English hay, 3 of bog hay, 2 of oats, 200 bushels potatoes, 200 of turneps, some fruit and a supply of garden vegetables for home consumption—worth, including pasture feed $385. The produce of the farm last year, (1847.) was by estimation, 200 tons of green fodder for soiling, 100 of hay 25 of millet, 17 of dry corn fodder, 640 bushels of potatoes, 750 bushels Indian corn, 50 bushels apples, with other fruit and garden vegetables —the value of which, inclusive of pasture feed, is $3.575. Nearly tenfold increase in the products of the farm."

Previous to 1826, the sandy portion of the farm had been put to Indian corn and rye, at intervals of about six years, and had yielded about eight bushels of corn, and about five bushels of rye per acre. The rye was sown on the corn-hills—no grass seed being ever sown. It was of so little value for grazing, that 75 acres, half in wood and half in pasture, rented in 1826 for $15. This same pasture produced last year, more than half the crops above named.

The basis of Mr. ANTHONY's improvement, has been the application of *leached ashes*. The products obtained by the use of ashes, afforded the means of keeping a larger stock and increasing the quantity of manure; the manure permitted the introduction of other crops, which being consumed on the farm, laid the foundation for larger yields and more extended cultivation. His first crops were clover and millet.

Bugs on Vines.—Messrs. Editors:—Having been much annoyed the *present* as well as *past seasons*, by the operations of bugs upon squashes, cucumbers, melons, &c. &c., I mention a fact that has come under my observation, for the benefit of those who will take the trouble to make the experiment. About the hills containing the seeds, at the time of planting, were set 8 or 10 onions. These grew with the growth of the plants. The plants are now vigorous and fair,

and have not been disturbed at all by any insect. This was the purpose for which the onions were set out; and the effect, the present season has been as desired. The onions are in condition to produce seed, without prejudice to the other crop. Possibly the experiment may be worthy the attention of those who would avoid the trouble of planting their seeds several times over.

Verry truly yours, H.

Danvers, July 1, 1848.

[*From the Boston Cultivator.*]

Vines on Forest Trees.

In travelling through the states of Massachusetts and Connecticut a few years since, I was drawn to observe the quantities of grapes growing wild on vines that were climbing over the tops of the forest trees;—most of those which I tasted were of good quality, and they grew in abundance without any care whatever.—I have heard people from the above mentioned states, speak of the excellent grapes that they used to gather from vines on the forest trees. A few years since, a friend of mine took the trouble to collect a quantity of cuttings of the best varieties which he planted in his garden. The vines when they grew were managed with much care, after the manner that Isabella and Catawba vines are on open trellises.—The consequence was, very little fruit was produced, and that of a very poor quality; and as he thought he had done his best he at length came to the conclusion that it was the change of location that had made such a wonderful change in the fruit. It happened that a few tendrils from one of the vines came in contact with the projecting limb of a plumb tree, and in a short time the shoots reached the top of the tree, and the next year the owner was gratified to see good fruit, and of as good flavor as any that he had ever tasted of the kind in their native place. In several instances I have known Isabella vines to run rampant over the tops of large trees, and they have never failed to produce large crops of grapes every year, of better quality than any that I have ever eaten grown on trellised vines, and without any labor being expended. There is one vine now growing in this town, that produces more grapes than any other six that are managed in the ordinary way; and what I wish to suggest is this; why cannot Isabella and Catawba grapes be raised to any extent throughout our whole country, on the tops of the scattering trees in the fields, and along the borders of wood-lands, and woody ravines, without any labor being expended or required, except in planting the vines, and training them up a permanent post set for that purpose? There should be three shoots fastened to the sides of the post, with loops of leather, until the beginning of March in the second year at which time the number should be reduced to one, which is to make the trunk of the vine. It should be protected while it is small with stakes to prevent injury by cattle or other animals. The vine needs the support of the post until the tendrils obtain permanent hold of the limbs of the tree, and the body attains sufficient size to withstand anything that may come against it. The vines should not be set near the body of the tree, because the ground is already occupied by the roots of the tree—but directly under extremities of the branches on the south side, where the vine will receive warmth of the sun. If the soil is not first rate, it should be taken away and replaced with at least one cart load of rich sods from the roadside, which is much better than any highly manured soil for the vine or any fruit tree. Much has been written on the management of vines, with many precise rules for pruning, training, manuring, &c., which all amounts to nothing with farmers generally, who have no time to devote to such work. All that our native vines want is plenty of space to extend over, and plenty of air and sun, all of which they receive perfectly if they are allowed to run over the tops of the trees. Another advantage in planting vines in the situations that I have described, is that they are rendered more lasting, and will produce fruit for several generations, judging from specimens that I have seen growing in different parts of our country. Writers compute the age of the vine at two hundred years, and they have been known to reach a much greater age; hence in planting a vine we are doing work that need not be repeated soon in the same place if properly done. I. Hildreth. *Seneca, April* 7 1848.

Cultivation of Forest Trees.

In the Transactions of the Essex (Mass.) Agricultural Society for 1847, we find a valuable essay on the Cultivation of the Oak and other Forest Trees, by C. B. Perry. This essay received a premium from the Society. We present the following abstract of the principal points set forth by Mr. P. His remarks are chiefly confined to the cultivation of the oak.

It is recommended that acorns for planting should be taken from trees of the right kind, which stand at a distance from other oaks of a different kind. This is important on account of the hybridization which takes place when the different kinds grow near each other. Mr. P. thinks there is scarcely any tribe of forest trees in which this process is carried on to that degree as in the oaks. In regard to the questions, how the acorns should be managed for planting, and whether they should be planted in the fall or spring?—Mr. Perry, after fully considering the various modes, decides that it is best to gather the acorns as soon as they are dropped, put them in a box with earth and let them freeze hard; after which they should be kept till spring in a cool, shady place, covered thick with straw.

The question has been considerably discussed

whether young forest trees should be cultivated —that is whether the ground should be loosed around with the plow or other implements; Mr. P. is of opinion, that when " the *right* culture" is bestowed, its effects are equally as useful on the " wild trees of the forest, as on the reclaimed ones of the orchard." In attempting the cultivation of the oak, injury has sometimes been done by breaking off the roots and otherwise mutilating the trees. Care should be taken in this respect—especially that the implements do not turn too deep. It is advised that trees should be cultivated in a nursery till they are five or six years old, and then transplant them to an open lot. Mr. P. thinks it is not unlikely that they may somitimes be kept in the nursery with advantage till they have attained the age of ten or twelve years.

Effects of Ashes.—Last fall I had a compost heap of manure and muck in preparation for covering my seed-beds of plums, apples, pears, &c., and a quantity of corn-stalks and weeds were thrown on the top of the heap and set on fire. A shower came up and we left it, but the top of the heap being quite dry, it kept burning all night and half of next day. The ashes were spread over a part of a long bed of plum stones in my nursery, and the effect is visible to this time, the young trees looking darker and are much larger than the others where the unburned compost was put. Still they had the ashes of a larger quantity than was given to the rest, though when applied I thought them worthless, and only put them on as an experiment. CHARLES HAMILTON. *Canterburg, N. Y., July* 10 1848.

Fresh Bones for Hens.—Those who keep their hens confined, will find it for their advantage to keep them liberally supplied with ashes, lime, gravel and pounded bones. These articles are highly beneficial—especially the latter, which, with a large per centum of animal matters contains also another principle highly essential in the formation of the shells of eggs. While on this subject I would advise every one who keeps hens to provide them liberally, with vegetable and animal food. When permitted to range abroad through the fields and gardens, a very considerable portion of their sustenance is obtained from insects and if they are restricted and deprived of the privilege of seeking it for themselves, they must be supplied, or they will become unhealthy and an expense rather than an income to the farmer.

From the Boston Cultivator.

On Topping Corn.

Messrs. Editors:—As the season is approaching, when the topping and blading of corn, for the purpose of fodder, will again be practised, with the reprobation of some and the commendation of others—all good and practical men—who have not, even yet, decided the question of injury done to the crop; permit me to copy from the Journal of a very intelligent writer the following which coincides with my own experience, and is of much importance at the present moment.

" On the 20th day of August, one of corn, in a field of 13 acres, was topped, to ascertain how the plant would bear early cutting. And on the 2d day of September following, another row was topped, leaving a third row between these, untopped, until the time of ripening, when they were all cut up by the roots and hauled in and set up separately, under my own inspection, being husked and measured on the 8th day of November, with great care, the experiment of early topping being considered by many as having done no injury, at least, in appearance. The row that had not been topped, produced nine bushels and five eights of corn in the ear; one of the rows that had been topped measured seven bushels and six-eights, the other, seven bushels and three-eights of corn in the ear. The injury done by this mode of management was however, clearly visible to those not blinded by prejudice, before the three experimental rows were cut; for, throughout the rows of those that had been topped, the husks were dry and open; while on the row that had been left uncut, they retained a greenish hue, and were close set to the ear, when the plants were cut off by the roots."

Thus far the account; to which might no doubt have been added the fact, that the injury done to the quality of the corn was as great as that, so perceptible in the diminution of quantity, by topping the crop before it was fully ripe —a fact worth knowing. JOSHUA NORTON.

Making Colors Fast.—The colors of calico may generally be made permanent by alum; as much water should be taken as would wet the garment you wish to, and as much alum as will be dissolved by the water; then heat the water boiling hot, and pour in on the alum; as soon as it dissolves put your garment in it, and let it remain till you can wring it out. If the garment is dirty which you wish to treat thus, it may be cleansed without fading, by being washed in hot water with a good deal of flour starch in it. A great many colors may become fixed by this process which can be by no other; but there are some colors which cannot be made permanent by any means.

Bathing.—Somebody has said that "cleanliness is akin to godliness"—we don't know how that is, but the mind seems instinctively to admit its truth. It is hard to reconcile inward purity with outward filth, and cleanliness of person almost presupposes purity of mind. There are many whited sepulchres, to be sure; but we would fain believe they are the exceptions. In this matter, though we hate hypocrisy, we advise all to "affect a virtue, though they have it not," and keep themselves clean.

So, perhaps, a channel for pure thoughts shall be opened to the mind, and virtue spring up, at length where vice has long corroded.—*Nashua Telegraph.*

Founder in Horses.—A writer in the S. W. Farmer says that he rode a hired horse 99 miles in two days, returning him at night the second day. In the meantime he had been deeply foundered, but so effectually cured that the owner would have known nothing of it, if he had not been told. In other cases he was nearly as successful. This is his method of cure. Bleed him immediately in the neck, according to the severity of the founder—in extreme cases, as long as he can stand. Then draw his head up, and with a spoon put back on his tongue salt enough till he has swallowed a pint. Let him drink moderately. Then annoint the edges of his hoofs with turpentine, and he will be well in an hour. The salt operates as a cathartic, and with the bleeding, arrests the fever.

Charcoal for Peach Trees.—Messrs. Editors—A friend of mine has just informed me of the success he has met with by the application of charcoal to his peach trees. A few years ago he had some fine peach trees in his garden which invariably had wormy fruit, and the trees were full of gum. When the fruit was about the size of marbles, he had the earth removed from each tree about two feet around and three inches deep, and filled up with charcoal: The result was that the fruit grew to a fine size. free from worms; and every year since, the fruit has been good, and the trees became healthy and free from gum; while two trees left without the charcoal, continue to bear wormy fruit and are unhealthy. —*Albany Cul.*

To weld Iron, Steel and Sheet Iron.—The following method of welding is given in a late number of the Journal of the Franklin Institute. In an earthern vessel melt borax, and add to it one-tenth of sal ammonia. When these ingredients are properly fused and mixed, pour them out upon an iron plate, and let them cool. There is thus obtained a glassy matter, to which is to be added an equal quantity of quick lime.

The iron and steel which are to be soldered, are first heated to redness, then this compound, first reduced to powder, is laid upon them:—the composition melts and runs like sealing wax; the pieces are then replaced in the fire, taking care to heat them at a temperature far below that usually employed in welding;—they are then withdrawn and hammered, and the surfaces will be found to be thus perfectly united. The author asserts that this process, which may be applied to welding sheet-iron tubes, never fails.

Curious Chemical Experiments.—To change the color of a rose.—Hold a red rose over the blue flame of a common match, and the color will be discharged wherever the fume touches the leaves of the flower, so as to render it beautifully variegated, or entirely white. If it be then dipped into water, the redness, after a time, will be restored.

Mrgic Dye.—Nearly fill a wine glass with the juice of beet root, which is of a deep red color; add a little lime water, and the mixture will be colorless; dip into it a piece of white cloth, dry it rapidly, and in a few hours the cloth will become red.

A Solid from two Liquids.—Dissolve muriate of lime in water until it will dissolve no more; —make also a similar solution of carbonate of potash; both will be transparent fluids; but if equal quantities of each be mixed and stirred together, they will become a solid mass.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Effect of Clover and Plaster on Light Lands.

Oakland County, July 8 1848.

Friend Isham:—Dont be frightened because I have come. In looking over the copy of the "Michigan Farmer" under date of May 15th, under the head of "Michigan Farming" I was less surprised at the language of the Albany Cultivator, in reference to lands being "thoroughly run down," than I was at your remark, that you had "never seen them, after having traversed through every section of the State." When you was at our house, it was winter, or you might have seen such land to your full satisfaction.* I came in possession of the farm on which I now reside in the spring of 1846, and found to my cost that I had just such land; assured by every neighbor that it was *once* very productive. It is located on what is called "openings, plains, deserts or barrens:" relative to *my farm*, I thought the two latter *peculiary appropriate.* In my first operations I plowed a 10 acre field, and sowed one-half of it to oats, and one bushel of clean clover seed, and had not oats enough to pay for harvesting and thrashing. The other half I planted to corn, and had my waggon box twice full of *nubbins* from the five acres. For once I dropped my lip and had the *blues*, but after a "second sober thought" I concluded to apply a remedy if possible. I sowed clover seed unsparingly and plastered liberally, in April of 1847 I sowed plaster on the part sowed to oats and clover seed the previons spring; and the clover, for hay and seed, paid for all I had expended on it, and more too: the corn ground aforesaid, I gave a deep plowing in the spring of 1847, sowed on one bushel of clover

seed, (without any other crop) and dragged it in and plastered as soon as it was fairly up, and in April of 1848 I plastered it again, and I think the product of clover this year, will rather exceed than fall short of two tons per acre.

And now by way of encouragement to those who like me have got a farm on the poorest "deserts," I would say, lift up your heads and take courage, for doubtless clover and plaster judiciously applied, will render our soft, sandy, easy working land as fertile and productive as any land in Michigan, any such land not thoroughly "run out," *will immediately* bear clover luxuriantly if plastered, (and vain is the effort without plaster,) and a good crop of clover plowed under will insure a crop of wheat (if *any thing* can) on our "poor sandy sorrel beds," as I have had my land called. Some say "it is all no doubt true but I cannot afford to buy clover seed and plaster;" now I am fully convinced that an error prevails with regard to the expensive outlay of clover and plaster. Does any one say, I cannot afford to sow wheat, the *seed* costs so much? at the present prices of clover seed and wheat, it costs more to sow an acre to wheat than it does to sow it to clover seed and plaster, and sow plentifully. One barrel of plaster will, if evenly distributed, sow ten acres. This is the third summer I have lived in Oakland county, and my clover for hay and seed, has been worth twice as much to me in cash, as the same number of acres of wheat—and land can be manured cheaper with clover, than barn-yard manure can be drawn from the barn-yard to the field, even if it was *there*, yet he is a prodigal farmer who does not make the most he can of the contents of his barn-yard, take an agricultural paper, and—

PAY UP.

*We did not regard the fact, that we had never seen such lands in Michigan, as full evidence that no such existed. Although we have traversed every section of the state, still but a small portion of its cultivated fields, comparatively, have fallen under our observation. We have however, seen many a field in Michigan, which from all our previous notions of the appearance of a fertile soil, we should have condemned as worthless, but which the proprietors assured us were quite productive, after having been cropped uninterruptedly for a series of years. It was this general fact, in regard to the deceptive appearance of no small proportion of Michigan lands, which we supposed, and still suppose, had lead the correspondent of the Cultivator into error. And we produced evidence that such was the fact, if not out of his own mouth, at least from his own pen. Did he not plainly convict himself of this error, when he spoke of these barren fields as being in juxta position with others which, to his surprise, "waved with luxuriant crops of wheat?" And is it not true, that our best wheat lands present this barren appearance to the passer-by, especially to a person from the East, every alternate year, when they are suffered to lie fallow?

And besides, how was this man to judge in the case? By the appearance of the soil? But an exhausted field presents about the same appearance, that it did previous to exhausttion, and we will venture the affirmation that if a peck of soil had been taken from the "thoroughly run down field" and another peck from the adjoining field, which teemed with "the luxuriant wheat crop," and submitted to his inspection, he could not, for the life of him, have told the difference, and Yankee though he be, would have been puzzled to guess "which was which." How then did he come by his wisdom? Plainly not by observing the crops which these "run down" fields produced, for there were no crops on them. And besides, so far as crops were concerned, his observation should have lead him to a very different conclusion, for when he saw "the luxuriant wheat crop upon the next adjoining field," observed that its soil was so nearly like that of the field which he had condemned as "thoroughly run down," that he could not tell the difference, the thought should have struck him, that possibly he might have been mistaken in his estimate of the capabilities of the latter.

[ED. Michigan Farmer.

A Letter of the Right Sort.

DU PLAIN, July 29, 1848.

MR. ISHAM:—Enclosed I send you the names of four new subscribers. I expect to be able to send some other names soon. I find it a very good plan, in order to obtain new subscribers for the Farmer, to lend it to the neighbors to read. I carefully preserve all my papers. I would not be deprived of its contents for a small sum.

The wheat crop is well secured and in good order in this vicinity. There has never been so bountiful a crop in this Town before.

Yours with respect,

W. H. FAXON.

Black ink may be kept over winter without danger of freezing, by putting a spoonful of salt into a bottle of it."

MICHIGAN FARMER.

WARREN ISHAM, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED SEMI-MONTHLY—TERMS $1 IN ADVANCE—FIVE COPIES FOR $4.

Organic Elements of Nutrition.

In the account given in another column by a correspondent, of the effect of clover and plaster upon worn out lands, we have an illustration of the importance of the organic elements of nutrition, viz, carbon, nitrogen, oxygen and hydrogen, and of the true method of supplying them, especialy the two former, to the soil. Most of our opening lands are deficient in these elements or which is about the same thing, in vegetable mould. It is carbon, charcoal, (which constitutes nearly half of the bulk of all vegetables,) that gives the dark appearance to soils, and of course the proportion of it in the soil may thus be estimated.

By burning a portion of soil, this dark color disappears, the carbon escaping in combination with oxygen, in the form of carbonic acid gas, into the atmosphere. The other organic elements escape at the same time, leaving nothing but the mineral portion of the soil, (being about nine-tenths of it, derived from the decomposition of rocks) which is of a reddish color.

These organic elements, which thus escape into the atmosphere, were not, originally, an integral portion of the soil, but became gradually incorporated with it as the result of vegetable decay. By burning a plant, the greater portion of it escapes into the atmosphere, and but a very small proportion remains in the form of ash, showing that far the greater part of it consisted of the organic elements derived from the atmosphere and from water, and that but a very small portion consisted of the inorganic or mineral elements, potash, soda, lime &c., derived from the decomposition of rocks.

But how did the first vegetables contrive to grow, without any organic matter in the soil? How could there be any vegetables to decay and thus to supply to the soil its organic elements, if those elements did not, to any extent, originally exist in the soil? We have seen, that these four gasses, constitute almost the entire bulk of all vegetables. We have seen also, that a portion of them is absorbed by the leaves directly from the atmosphere, and that another portion is taken up by the roots. And that they should exist, to some extent in the soil, seems indispensable to the growth of vegetables.

How then did the soil become replenished with these elements? Two of them, oxygen, and hydrogen, exist in combination in the soil, in the form of water, and nitrogen and carbonic acid descends, to some extent, in rain water. The atmosphere is also absorbed to some extent by the surface of the earth, gravitating in common with all things towards its centre, and thus these four gasses are, in small measure, supplied to the soil. And although their supply from these sources, especially of carbonic acid, is small indeed compared to the quantity required to produce vegetation in any degree of perfection, yet it is sufficient to produce it to some extent, and imperfect as the product is, still as the greater portion of its bulk has been drawn from the atmosphere, and a large portion of it directly through the leaves, its decay will of course, make an addition to the stock of these elements in the soil. And thus every successive growth of vegtables, which decay upon the ground, furnishes an essential addition to the organic matter of the soil.

As we have already remarked, there is an essential deficiency of organic matter in the soil of much of our opening land. Its very appearance shows that there is, at least, a deficiency of carbon. This was manifestly the case with the soil of our friend in Oakland. How else are we to account for the fact, that a crop of clover plowed under, produces a good crop of wheat where it would otherwise scarcely pay for harvesting? Now clover draws a larger proportion of its elements of nutrition from the atmosphere, directly through the leaves, than almost any other plant. And it is thus, that the gasses of the atmosphere, particularly the carbonic, are transfered to, and incorporated with the soil; and hence the wonderful result.

But, what made the clover grow? How is it, that upon the application of a few pounds of plaster, there is an addition of so many hundreds to the result? This result has, with much reason, been ascribed to the action of the plaster, (sulphate of lime) upon the ammonia which descends in rain water, by fixing it, and preventing its escape again into the atmosphere by evaporation. In this manner, the nitrogen of the ammonia, is supposed to be rendered available as an element of nutrition. The quantity of

nitrogen found, by analysis in clover is double the quantity found in wheat, and wheat has been found to be productive, somewhat in proportion to the amount of nitrogen in the soil.

It is by no means improbable, that a portion of the gypsum is taken up by the roots of this plant, and incorporated in its organization. Indeed sulphate of lime, (gypsum) has been detected in the ash of clover, and although in minute proportion, yet a proportion without which it is very possible, that the other elements which enter into its composition, both organic and inorganic, might have been rendered comparatively incapable of those combinations which are essential to the growth of the plant.

Clover for Horses.—It is a common remark, that clover hay, if fed to horses for any length of time, occasions a cough, and greatly aggravates, if it does not occasion "the heaves." There are two remedies for this. One is to deposit the hay in a manger instead of a rack. The leaves of clover cured after the old fashion, are so dry and crispy, that they crumble and pulverize as they are drawn violently from the rack, occasioning a dust, which being inhaled, irritates the lungs, and hence coughs &c. In taking up the hay from a manger, no dust is created.

Another and better remedy is, to cure clover in the right manner. By curing it in the cock, instead of spreading and turning, again and again, its leaves become wilted, instead of becoming crispy, and do not crumble. Thus not only is immense labor in curing, saved, but no inconsiderable loss in crumbling of the leaves, to say nothing of the pernicious effect above spoken of.

Value of the Pea & Bean, as Articles of Diet. The value of the pea and bean as articles of diet, is scarcely known. They possess the flesh-forming principle to a greater extent, even than meat, pound for pound. To produce one pound of flesh, it requires four pounds of lean meat, and only 3½ pounds of peas, and three and three tenths pounds of beans. And to produce the same, requires 7½ pounds of wheat flour, 50 lbs. of carrots, 50 lbs. of potatoes, 100 lbs. of turnips, and 25 lbs. of milk.

Importance of Proper Diet.—The importance of a diet adapted to the building up of all parts of the animal system, is strikingly illustrated in the fact, that the bone disease (softness of the bones) which prevailed among the foundlings and poor children of Paris, insomuch, that they could not stand, was found to have been occasioned by their being fed upon a counterfeit kind of milk, manufactured from arrow root, which contained no phosphate of lime, of which about one-half of the substance of the bone, is formed.

Indian Corn—Value of different kinds.—In the different kinds of Indian Corn there is much diversity of value. Some varieties possess more fattening properties than others, but are deficient in the flesh-forming principle. Others make flesh, but cannot make bone, and others make bone but not flesh. Some varieties are entirely without oil, others without starch, and others still without gluten. For the formation of bone, muscle and fat, the Tuscarora and gourd-seed varieties are but ill adapted, while the hard flinty and transparent varieties abound in the elements which enter into the composition of those parts of the system. The fattening properties of any given variety, may be determined by its tendency to pop when thrown into the fire. The more effectual the explosion the greater the quantity of oil contained in the kernel, and the greater of course its fattening properties.

Improved Husbandry.—At a meeting of the Farmer's Club of New Castle Co. Deleware, D. W. Gemmit stated, that within fifteen years the agricultural productions of that county had been doubled, and this result was regarded as due to the influence of the club. The great agents employed had been lime and clover, in connection with an improved husbandry, "better plowing, better preparation of the ground, more system, more care of stock, and more economy of manures." The farmers there "put their heads together."

Corn for Horses.—The analysis of Indian corn shows that phosphate of lime enters largely into its composition, a substance which constitutes about one half of the entire weight of all bones, and does not enter into any other portion of the system as a component part. Now the question arises, whether a substance which enters so largely into the composition of bone, is not injurious to horses of mature age, whose bones have attained their full size, and indeed horses of any age, when given them as their

principal food, and whether this is not the occasion of the numerous diseases to which corn-fed horses are notoriously subject. A certain proportion of corn is no doubt beneficial to horses, on account of both its bone-forming and fat-forming elements.

Sowing Wheat.

As the time is approaching for sowing wheat, it may not be amiss to bring some things in relation to it to the notice of our readers.

Preparation.—In the first place, it should be borne in mind, that the ground cannot be too thoroughly prepared. Thorough pulverization is essential to the growth of any crop, to any degree of perfection. Why is it that a field which, upon being plowed, is all covered over with clods, will produce comparatively little? Plainly because there is about as little chance for the roots of the growing crop to derive their nutriment from a clod as from a stone. By being broken up into small clods the matter is mended a little, but still, a clod is a clod after all and the nutriment it yields, is sparing indeed.

For the same reason the less compact the soil, the more loose and porous it is, the greater the facility with which the roots search out and are supplied with their appropriate food. This would seem to be almost a self evident truth, forcing itself upon the observation of the most heedless. Every obstacle is thus removed to the downward progress of the roots, and the way opened for the free ingress of air, by which the earth is moistened, and through the agency of which the decomposition of the soil is accelerated, and its elements made available.

It is not perhaps going too far to say, that one half the quantity of land usually tilled in Michigan, would produce as much as the whole now does, if the amount of labor and expense usually bestowed upon the whole, were confined to the one half. And if so, the saving would be immense. To say nothing of the capital employed, the amount saved in the single item of harvesting, would be, by no means inconsiderable. But a discussion on this branch of the subject, would involve the whole system of improved husbandry, into which we cannot enter at present. We would add however, that the earth is probably as well pulverized, by simply plowing under a crop of clover, and sowing the wheat directly upon it, as it is by plowing two and even three times, after the summer fallow system; and the soil is far better prepared for a crop, for, in addition to the organic elements, which the clover has drawn, in large measure, from the atmosphere, its tap roots have penetrated into the subsoil, and besides loosening it to some extent, have brought up its mineral elements and mingled them with the surface soil.

Time of Sowing.—This is a nice point, especially in this country, where early sown wheat is so liable to be destroyed by the insect in the fall, and late sown by the insect in the spring, or by the rust in summer. Some numbers back we endeavored to show, that there was a golden mean between these two extremes, by observing which the dangers from both might be avoided. From the natural history of the Hessian fly, it has been definitely ascertained, that it ceases depositing its eggs about the 20th of September. Wheat therefore sown from the 20th to the 25th of September, will escape the insect in the fall, and in all ordinary seasons, will come forward sufficiently to escape both the insect in the spring and the rust in summer. And this is not theory merely. It is fact, sustained by the experience of many farmers. It may be hoped to be sure, that the insect will cease its ravages, but that is by no means certain. It is best to make provision for the worst. "The prudent man foreseeth the evil and hideth himself."

Manner of Sowing.—We are anxious to see the wheat drilling machine introduced among our farmers. At any rate we would like to see it tested. It has been brought into use, to considerable extent, at the East, and it is said, with highly beneficial results. The alledged advantages arising from its use, are the following. 1st, saving of seed. 2nd, protection to some extent against rust, by means of the free admission of air between the rows. 3rd, exemption from winter-killing, the earth being raised, in the form of a ridge, between the rows, which of course are in the furrows. 4th, a superior yield, arising from its superior facilities of growing, and from its exemption from winter-killing.

We think however, that it would not be very likely to work well except on lands pretty thoroughly tilled, and comparatively free from grubs and stones. This machine is advertised on our last page, as being for sale at the Agricultural warehouse of the Messrs Parkers of this city.

It is no doubt beneficial to pass over the field (on which wheat has been sown and dragged in

after the ordinary manner) with a heavy roller, thus pulverizing and rendering more compact the surface of the soil.

We said nothing of the preparation of the seed by brining and liming, which many farmers regard as a specific against smut. Nor have we spoken of the application of salt to the soil, which is regarded by the most scientific agriculturists of England as a specific againstrust.

Effect of Subsoiling.

We have frequently called the attention of our reeders to the subject of subsoil cultivation, and endeavored to initiate them into the philosophy of it. We find in the N. York State Agricultural Transactions for the last year, just issued, a communication from John Mallory, of Yates Co. detailing experiments, which illustrate in a striking manner the views which we have frequently advanced and urged. He says "I have found from frequent examination of the roots of wheat, corn, and oats, during the last four or five years, that they generally incline to grow downwards, some of the roots straight down, until they reach the subsoil, then, after penetrating an eighth or the fourth of an inch, turn horizontally." In regard to the effect of subsoiling, he adds, "it is interesting to see the roots of corn pushing boldly downwards in search of food, eight inches of which had never been penetrated, except by the noble oak and hickory and occasionally by the searching tap root of clover, as I have witnessed this past summer, affords pleasure as well as instruction to the farmer, who takes pleasure in fat swine and stalled oxen."

Mr. M. subsoiled a portion of a field for corn, the surface soil of which was a clay loam, and the subsoil a stiff clay, a part of it being a wet swale, and a part ridge, and another part ditched swale—first plowed five inches deep, then subsoiled nine inches more. He saw no difference in the corn until August, when there came on a drought, during which that upon the subsoiled portion retained all its beautiful freshness, bearing a healthy, perpendicular tassel, and having the appearance through the day of having been refreshed with a shower of rain the previous evening, while that upon the unsubsoiled portion, yielded to the drouth, the tassels drooped, and the leaves became dry and crispy. Upon the examination of the earth with a spade, it was found to be moist upon the subsoiled portion to within a fourth of an inch of the surface, while upon the unsubsoiled portion, it was dry to the depth of an inch, and below that depth, it was perceptibly drier than the former. In the one, the subsoil was filled with corn roots in search of food; in the other, they were turned aside by the subsoil. The corn on the wet swale, was as good, if not better, than on any other portion of the field. The advantage to this portion of the field he judged to be at least one hundred per cent, "nothwithstanding the objection raised by some, to subsoiling wet land without ditching."

He adds, "I may be mistaken, but I fully believe, that subsoiling thoroughly performed, will prove more profitable to farmers for the outlay than any one improvement. I have never anticipated much improvement from it until after one crop of clover. Then I expect a complete preparation of the soil for wheat. It is unnecessary for me to describe with what ease a clover root will penetrate the loosened subsoil in search of food, gaining strength with every additional inch in depth, bringing the salts, of the lower strata to the surface for its use, and affording by its decay, when turned under by the plow, rich stones of food for wheat."

The great advantages to the wheat crop from subsoiling in Michigan, hitherto do not seem to have been dependant upon a previous crop of clover, but there is no doubt the result might thereby be greatly increased.

Accessions to our Exchange List.

The Western Journal of Agriculture, Manufactures, Mechanic arts, Internal Improvement, Commerce and General Literature, a monthly of fifty-six pages, edited and published by Tarver and Fisher, St. Louis, at three dollars per annum—an ably conducted and useful publication.

The American Farmer.—This is one of the oldest and best of our Agricultural Journals, a monthly of 32 pages, published, at Baltimore, at one dollar per annum.

American Agriculturist.—This is also a monthly, of 32 pages, published by C. M. Saxton, New York, at one dollar per annum, A. B. Allen editor. It holds a place in the first rank of Agricultural Journals.

The Western School Journal, a monthly quarto, of sixteen pages, devoted to the cause of education in the Mississippe Valley, published at Cincinnati, by Wm. H. Moore & Co. at fifty cents a year—a well conducted Educational Journal, and one which makes its appeal for support alike to every patriot, philanthropist and christian, throughout the length and breadth of this great valley.

The Western World.—Devoted to News, Literature, Agriculture, Science, Arts, Health, Markets, &c, a monthly published in N. York, by Geo. E. Leese & Co., an interesting sheet.

The Great Fair at Buffalo.—Remember that the great annual fair of the N. York State Agricultural Society, is to come off at Buffalo on the 5th, 6th and 7th of September, and that the Pomological Convention is to assemble on the 1st, and continue its sittings until the Fair commences. We trust Michigan will be well represented.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Agriculture, Schools &c.

Agriculture in all ages and nations, has been considered one of the most healthly and useful occupations of man. Its labors give effective energy to the physical system by exercise in the open air, which is indispenseble to the enjoyment of health. This bodily exercise increases the muscular power, expands and strengthens the physical constitution, which acts directly upon the intellectual mind. Temperance and exercise are alike indespensable to the vigor of both body and mind. No man ever attained to a high degree of excellence in any art or calling, who neglected the exercise of the physical powers. In scientific pursuits, the mind will accomplish more, in a given time, by allotting every alternate hour to agricultural or mechanical labor, than can be achieved by unremitted intellectual exertions. The reason is obvious. The exercise of the body gives relief to the mind and adds fresh vigor to the whole nervous system.

From these premises we deduce the conclusion, that it is the duty of Government to institute Normal schools for the promotion of agriculture. The introduction of these schools would elevate the standard of national literature and reduce agriculture to a science. Why has this subject been so neglected while we are so emulous to excel in every other branch of intellectual philosophy? Is agriculture too inconsiderable to deserve the fostering care and protection of the state? According to the late census, the number engaged in manufactures, mechanical arts, and mining, was less than a million of souls, whereas the number engaged in agriculture, and dependant immediately thereon, amounted to 83 per cent or four-fifths of our whole population. The rest of our enterprize and industry are engaged in commercial pursuits. With our immense public domain stretching as it does, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, from our own noble Lakes to the mouth of the Rio Grande, we are capable, when our resources are properly developed, of sustaining a population of 300 million of people. For many years to come, until population comes up to the limits of production, we are destined to become a great agricultural exporting country. The exportation of agricultural breadstuffs for the last few years, amounts to more than sixteen millions of dollars per annum. These were exchanged for commodities we need in return, articles, some of them, not the growth of this country, but of prime necessity, indispensable in every cottage and cabin in the Union. Agriculture is the cause of rational advancement, the foundation of all wealth. It is only after considerable advance in agriculture, that manufactures are established. They are the consequence of wealth. A prosperous agriculture will ensure prosperity in manufactures. The former furnishes the raw material, while the latter gives exchangeable value to that raw material by the effect of art, by mechanical skill and ingenuity. The one follows the other, as sure as effect follows its cause. They act and react upon each other, and, conduce to national wealth. They give us strength and independance at home, and command respect abroad. If agriculture does not deserve the protection of the sovereign power, the interposition of the executive and legislative authority, I am at a loss to conceive what interest, coming within the purvey of the constitution, does. It is a grave question, involving interests of the highest moment to us as a people, affecting for weal or for woe the future destiny of our young and rising commonwealth.

MICHIGAN.

A Pioneer Gone.

The following letter from our esteemed friend and former acquaintance, Geo. W. Barnes Esq. conveys to us the first intellgence we had received of the death of his lamented father, Col. Isaac Barnes. Col. Barnes was one of the first settles of Gull Prairie, and we believe, of Kalamazoo county and was highly esteemed for moral and intellectual worth. We were not before aware, that he was so zealously and extensively engaged in Horticulture. There are doubtless many things among his papers on the subject, which would be worthy of publication, and if so, we hope they will be furnished for the Farmer.

WAYLAND, ALLEGAN CO. MICH. }
July 24th, 1848. }

MR. ISHAM—DEAR SIR: Please to inform me how stands my father's account with the "Michigan Farmer." Two copies come into my office both sent to his address.*

You have doubtless heard of my father's death. He died on the 19th of February last. My mother followed him 5 days afterwards. Their "kindred spirits" were separated only by "a point of time," to become reunited in a holier, happier clime, "where the wicked cease from troubling and the weary are at rest."

God, whose unseen hand moves all the vast and complicated machinery of the universe, saw fit to call them home to heaven. Now the will of God is the law of his creatures, and conformity thereto constitutes their highest happiness. That will is as clearly declared in that voice which calls away our earthy friends, and leaves us to weep," as in the "still small voice" that whispers in the breeze, or makes the "music of the spheres."

For four or five years past my father had been devoting his time, and directing his attention to the cultivation of *fruit trees.* He had taken pains to procure the choicest varieties of the apple, pear, peach, plum, cherry, quince, nectarine, apricot &c., from eastern nurseries, and had taken unusual care in rearing his fruit trees.—He had patronized several agricultural, horticultural and pomological magazines, and accumulated a vast store of knowledge upon these and kindred subjects. Among the rest, the "Michigan Farmer" was a favorite, and the more so as a plant growing on our own soil. Had he lived to perfect his plans in the fruit business, its columns would have been made the medium for communicating the results of his experience. He had projected the plan of a nursery on an extended scale, and had his life been spared a few years, he would doubtless have realized, to some extent his expectations, and reaped the fruit of his labor.

My father's death has left me in charge of the nursery business, But I find myself a novice. I need the knowledge which experience gives. I purpose to carry out my father's intentions in reference to the business, so far as lies in my power. The Michigan Farmer will afford many valuable hints, as it has always done, and afford a medium through which I can make enquiries upon matters concerning which I may want information.

I am, sir, very truly your friendand ob't serv't, GEO. W. BARNES.

*Payment for two copies of the current volume of the Farmer was acknowledged in the 3rd number, Feb. 1st. [ED.

For the Michigan Farmer.

Detroit Horticultural Society.

The regular meeting for August was held on Tuesday evening, 8th inst, at the Hall of the Detroit Institute.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the Pomological Convention and State Fair to be held at Buffalo N. York, commencing September 1st, viz—James Dougal, John C. Holmes, B. G. Barker, Chas. Hastings, Rev. Geo Duffield, John Clark, E. P. Hastings, E. D. Lay, M. H. Webster, Wm. Adair, A. C. Hubbard, Johd Ford, W. A. Bacon, Henry Hurlbut, E. R. Kearsly, F. Raymond, John Winder, B. G. Stimson, Peter Desnoyer, and Bela Hubbard.

Judge Chipman was duly elected a member of the Society.

The exhibitions for the months of August and September were postponed until the 4th Tuesday of each month instead of the 3d as voted at a previous metting.

Committees were appointed to prepare a list of premiums and to make the necessary arrangements for the August and September exhibitions.

The sum of twenty dollars was voted for premiums at the August exhibition and fifty dollars at the September exhibition, and it was left discretionary with the committee, to award books, medals or money, as they should think advisable.

It was voted that all articles exhibited from nursery establishments, should be exhibited in the name of the firm and not in the names of the individuals comprising the same.

The Society was then favored with an address from Rev. Geo. Duffield—subject—the peach—its natural history—cultivation—diseases—best varieties for this climate—etc etc.

The thanks of the Society were tendered to Rev. Geo. Duffield for his very able and instructive address.

Mr. Warren Isham was invited to address the Society at their next meeting.

Adjourned. *F. Raymond Secry.*

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* *Educational.*—The North Western Educational convention will hold its second anniversary at the Presbyterian session room, in this city on Wednesday, the 16th of the present month, to be composed of teachers and such as are interested in the great cause of Education, (and who is not?) from every part of the North West. The first anniversary was held at Milwaukie last year.

The Plow, the Loom and the Anvil.—This is the tittle of a new publication just commenced in Philadelphia, into which the Farmer's Library, of N. York, has been merged. J. S. Skinner late editor of the latter publication, has the editorial charge, assisted by his son. The high character of Col. S. as a standard agricultural writer, and the pioneer in the cause of agricultural science in this country, will ensure for it a wide circulation. Price $3,00 per annum. Five copies for ten dollars.

American Journal of Agriculture and Science.—This monthly which we have heretofore commended to the notice of our readers, still maintains its high character. Price two dollars per annum, C. N. Bement editor.

☞ *The Wheat crop of Canada* is represented as good. Two new kinds of wheat, the China, and the Mummy, or Dead man's Wheat, are spoken of as producing a remarkable yield, and as not being subject to injury from rust, fly or drouth, and withal very hardy.

NEW INVENTIONS.

The Viameter.—It was recently stated that the distance between Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico, had been measured by means of the "viameter." Not having been able to find a definition for this word in the dictionary, we were glad to meet with the following explanation in the Philadelphia Ledger: In the year 1845, when Gen. Taylor and that portion of the army under him' was, odered to the Rio Grande, the late Lieut. George Stevens, of the 2nd regiment of Dragoons, was despatched on topographical engineering service, and was ordered by Gen. Taylor to survey the route of the army from Fort Jessup, La., to Corpus Christi, Texas. Lieutenant Stevens being an inventive genius, constructed this "viameter" out of an old wooden clock, and attached it to the axletree of a cart given him by his commanding general, for the purpose' and in the hub of the wheel he drove a spike, and every revolution of the wheel the spike would strike a pin in the clock and cause the hand to move one notch, thereby indicating the circumference of the wheel and the distance the army had travelled every day by looking at the "clock," the officers used to say. A few days before the battles of the 8th and 9th of May Lieut. Stevens not knowing what might be his fate, desired that his government should be owner of this valuable invention. He gave it to the Quarter-masters department for the use of the United States, and after passing through those battles unscathed, Lieut. S. was drowned while leading his squadron across the Rio Grande on the 18th of May.—*Farmer & Mechanic.*

Paine's Propeller.

Dear Sir.—In compliance with your request I give you an account of the newly invented steamboat of Capt. Paine, designed for canal navigation. The great objection to steam navigation on canals, has heretofore been, the injury caused by washing the sides and bottoms. To construct a boat, therefore, to be propelled by steam in such a manner as to avoid this difficulty, was the great desideratum to be attained. Capt. Paine, has happily effected this, by placing his wheels in the bottom of the boat, so as to cause no perceptible wash of the sides or bottom of the canal.

A boat was built under the direction of Capt. R. True, of this city, for the benefit of Grenville Parer, Esq., who is the sole patentee, and has been placed in the canal at Windsor, Ct. She is 50 feet long, and ten feet wide midships, and has elicited the universal approval of every scientific person who has inspected her, not only as it regards the peculiar position of the wheel but its form; the adaptation of the buckets, and the superior model of the boat itself.

The boat has been propelled at the rate of 7½ miles an hour without creating any wash to the sides or bottom of the canal, though she has been run so near the sides, that a person could jump from the boat on the tow-path.

The canal is four feet deep, and the boat draws two feet of water. If the boat had been ten feet longer, she would have drawn but eleven inches of water, as her boiler and engines, (which are of twelve-horse power,) are too heavy for the size of the boat. But nothwithstanding this impediment, when her engines are somewhat used, she may be propelled at the rate of nine or ten miles an hour.—You will observe that speed was not the object sought for in a boat of this description. She is designed merely as tug boat, and five or six miles an hour is all that is wished for. I am told by the owner, and by the inventor, that a boat of eighty feet keel and thirteen feet beam, with two engines of thirty horse power, would draw only 13 inches of water, and would be capable of towing 10 boats of 80 tons each, one hundred miles in twenty-four hours, without occasioning any wash by the action of the boat's wheels; and at an expense not exceeding $10, including fuel, wages, &c. of the hands. At the present rates of transportation on the Erie Canal, it would cost about $140 to do the same work by horses.—*Ibid*

Separating the Hull of Wheat.—A patent was lately taken out for a new mode of hulling wheat. It simply consists in passing the wheat or grain through a jet of steam in any convenient manner, so that each grain shall be thoroughly acted upon by the steam which gives to the hull such toughness that it is not pulverized by the action of the stones in the grinding, but it peels off in large flakes. J. W. Howlet and F. M. Walker, are the patentees.

It is well known that when grain is ground in too dry a state, the hull is so brittle that a portion of it is pulverized and passes through the bolter with the flour, thus reducing its mercantile value. This invention then removes this difficulty, for the steam toughens the hull so that it peels off most beautifully and allows all that can be converted into fine flour to pass through the bolter, while the hull like a thin membrane is completely separated.—*Far. & Mechanic.*

Alarm Lock.—An ingenious Yankee has invented a machine which is destined to come into universal use. It consists of the attachment of a cheap, simple and durable alarm to a lock of almost any description, so arranged as not to interfere in any respect with the action of the lock, and so connected with the bolt, that the latter cannot be withdrawn, or even the attempt made, without giving an alarm, at once distinct and sufficient to awaken any person in the vicinity, and which may be distinctly heard at the distance of 20 or 25 rods.

The expense of this lock is no more than those in use; the improvement will no doubt be soon applied to almost every lock that is manufactured.—*Farmer and Mechanic.*

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

The great Free Soil Convention.—The great convention to designate free soil candidates for President and Vice President of the United States assembled at Buffalo without distinction of party, on the 8th inst, and nominated Martin Van Buren for President, and Charles F. Adams of Boston, son of the late J. Q. Adams, for Vice President. The following are the preliminary proceedings.

BY TELEGRAPH.—Aug. 6—3. P. M.

The great free soil convention met at 12 M. —Judge Stevens, of Indiana, called the convention to order. 25 or 30,000 strangers in the city. The following are the resolutions:

Resolved, That it is duty of the Federal Government to release itself from all responsibibility of the existence or continuation of Slavery, wherever Government possesses constitutional authority to legislate on that subject, and is thus responsible for its existence.

Resolved, That the States within which slavery exist are alone responsible for the existence or continuance of slavery within the limits of such States, and the Federal Government has neither responsibility nor constitutional authority to abolish or regulate slavery within a State where slavery now exists.

Resolved, That the true, and in the judgment of this convention the only safe means of preventing the extension of slavery into territory now free, is to prohibit its existence in all such territory by an act of Congress.

3 P. M.—On the going in of the convention at 3 P. M., the Hon. Preston King, chairman of the committee on organization reported the name of Chas. F. Adams as President of the convention. He took his seat amid deafening cheers.

Important from Ireland.

NEW YORK, Aug. 4—2 P. M.

In Ireland the club organizations are daily increasing and becoming more concentrated and systematic, and there is great danger of a premature outbreak. The following places have been proclaimed under the Coercion Act: County and city of Dublin; county and city of Cork; county and city of Waterford, and the town of Drogheda at Carrick-on-Suil. Several Clubbists were arrested, among whom was the Rev. Byrne, when they rose *en masse* and with arms in their hands repaired to the authorities and demanded the release of the prisoners who were at once delivered up to them. They then rang the chapel bells, when 400 men descended from the neighboring hills, armed to the teeth, who remained in Carrick all night, lest an attempt should be made to arrest Father Byrne. The delivery of the prisoners and withdrawal of the troops were considered as a triumph. Twenty-three Catholic priests in the Deanery of Twan had protested against the clubs, and a few priests in other parts have also disavowed them. The purchase and manufacture of arms are progressing. Barricades are to be thrown up. Devin Riley continues to write and speak Treason. Five absent officers belonging to the Regiments in Ireland have been ordered on duty.

The Mexican Treaty.—Twelve Representatives of the Mexican Congress having protested to the Supreme Court of Mexico against the constitutionality of the late treaty: that Tribunal delivered its opinion on the 18th ult, in favor of the constitutionality of the treaty, which sets the matter at rest. This decision, together with the fact the government forces under Bustamente, have achieved a signal triumph over the insurgents under Paredes and Jurauta, gives hope, that matters in that distracted country, are settling down upon a more stable basis than has been feared. Herrera has been elected President of Mexico.

Nathan Clifford, of Maine, late Attorney General of the United States, and one of the peace commissioners, has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Republic of Mexico.

The Niagara Suspension Bridge.—Mr. ELLET, the Architect of this great work, took his first drive over this bridge on Saturday last. The bridge is but about ten feet wide; and the only protection is a slender net-work, on either side. Mr. E. first drove over in a one-horse buggy—the horse being blind in one eye. The trip to and fro, was made in perfect safety. He subsequently obtained permission of a hackman, to mount the box of his carriage; and drove over with two horses, with equal safety.

Congress.—The customary civil appropriation bill has been defeated in the House, an event which has never before occurred in the history of the gouernment. A clause appropriating $50,000 for clearing obstructions from the Savannah River, by which the principle of internal improvement was recognized, is said to have been the cause. The Oregon compromise bill (compromise between slavery and freedom) has been rejected in the House, by a free soil majority of 15.

☞ Some of the Paris letters complain of the severity of General Cavaignac's rule, and speak of it, unjustly, we presume, as a reign of terror. It is further alledged that an effort is making to protract his dictatorship one year.

☞In addition to the resolutions of the Buffalo convention given above, we find a string of eighteen more reported by the chairman of the committee on resolutions, B. F. Butler Esq. condemnatory of the encroachments of the slave power, and of the *doughfacism* of Northern politicians The resolutions also go for cheap postage, River and Harbor Improvements, the free grant to actual settlers, under certain restrictions of portions of the public domain, and a tariff for revenue and the payment of the National debt.

The Wheat Crop.—In all the wheat-growing states, the crop has been gathered, and for the most part, in good condition. It is represented as uniformly good, the whole country over. In Europe the crop is also represented as being a full average. Low prices are predicted, but in regard to price much will depend upon the extent to which the potatoe disease shall prevail.

The Potatoe Disease.—The potatoe disease has made its appearance earlier than usual. It is already prevailing in this vicinity, and also in the interior, to an alarming extent, and it is represented as prevailing with equal virulence at the East, occasioned, no doubt, as we predicted it would be, by the extraordinary amount of rain with which the country has been deluged for the last few weeks.

Horticultnral Address.—At the regular monthly meeting of the Detroit Horticultural Society. held on Tuesday evening of last week an address was delivered by Rev. Dr. Duffield on the origin, geography, history, cultivation, varieties, diseases and profits of the peach tree. The address abounded in learned research and useful information. We shall give a portion of it in our next number.

TERMS.—The MICHIGAN FARMER is published at Detroit, twice a month, by WARREN ISHAM, at one dollar a year in advance—after three months $1 25—after six months $1 50—after nine months $1 75. No subscription taken for less than one year, nor discontinued till all arrerages are paid. To clubs, five copies for four dollars.
Office, on King's corner, third story.

DETROIT PRICE CURRENT.

Flour, bbl.	$4 00		Salt,	$1 25 a	$1 50
Corn, bus.	a 40		Butter,	9 a	12½
Oats,	a 35		Eggs, doz.		11
Rye,	a 42		Hides, lb.	3 a	6¼
Barley,	56 a		Wheat, bus.		70
Hogs, 100 lbs.	3 00 a	3 50	Hams, lb.	6 a	6¼
Apples, bush	a 0	75	Onions, bu.	41 a	50
Potatoes,		31	Cranberries,	a 1	25
Hay, ton,	8 00 a	10 00	Buckwheat 100 lbs.		1 50
Wool, lb.	14 a	28	Indian meal, "		1 00
Peas, bu,	a	75	Beef, do 3 50 a		4 50
Beans,	75 a	80	Lard, lb. retail,		7
Beef, bbl.	5 00 a	6 00	Honey.		10
Pork,	8 00 a	10 00	Apples, dried,		1 00
White fish,	6 00 a	7 00	Peaches, do	a	2 00
Trout,	5 50 a	6 50	Clover seed, bu.		4 50
Cod fish, lb.	5 a	5½	Herd's grass do do		1 00
Cheese,	6 a	8	Flax do		75
Wood, cord,	2 25 a	2 50	Lime, " bbl		75

Improved Railroad Portable Horse Powers, and Over-shot Threshing Machines and Separators.—Having sold upwards of seventy setts of the above celebrated machines the past season, and to many large farmers in this state, Vermont, Massachusetts, Michigan, Ohio, Ilinois, Wisconsin, Canada, and with entire satisfaction in every case, the subscriber would call the particular attention of farmers and mechanics desiring such machines, before purchasing—as he is prepared to offer a better finished article, with some slight improvements, at a less price, than before—for full particulars, description, &c, see catalogue, furnished gratis at the warehouse, Number 10 and 12, Green street, Albany, or by mail to those desiring them. HORACE L. EMERY.
Abany March 16th, 1848.

Detroit Wool Depot.
In Atwater Street, back of the Michigan Exchange, formerly the storehouse of Gillet and Desnoyers.

THE undersigned will open a depot at the above mentioned place, and be prepared to receive from farmers their wool immediately after shearing. His plan will be similar to that of the Eastern depots, which have proved so satisfactory to both wool-growers and manufacturers; that is, if lots of wool are of an even quality, and if the owner wishes, each man's clip will be kept and sold separately. If not even in quality, they will be thrown into sorts according to quality and condition. As soon as a sufficient quantity is collected, Eastern manufacturers will be invited to examine and purchase. No difficulty is anticipated in effecting prompt cash sales, at good rates, as the orders on wool depots from manufacturers, have hitherto generally outrun the supply. Wool may be delivered at the depot from wagons, or if sent by Railroad, will be taken by me from the carhouse, without expense or care to the owner. It will be sufficient for him to put his wool aboard the cars, taking a receipt for the same, mark the bales with his name, and consign them to the "Detroit Wool Depot," and all will be safe. Insurance will be effected on all lots as soon as arrived. All charges, *including insurance*, cartage, sorting, storage, shipping and for effecting sale, will be included in a commission of one and a half cents on the pound.
EARDLEY IVES.
Detroit March 27th, 1848.

REFERENCES.—E. P. Hastings, C. C. Trowbridge, B. F. .H Witherell, Z. Pitcher, M. D. M. Palmer, Shubael Conant.

PETERS'
BUFFALO WOOL DEPOT,
SECOND YEAR.

I have established a Wool Depot upon the following plan: *First*, The Wool is thrown into 10 sorts; Merino wool being No. 1, the grades numbering down from 1 to 5; the coarsest common wool being No. 5. Saxony wool is thrown into extra, and prime 1 and prime 2.—Combing and De Laines make 2 sorts more. *Second*, I charge for receiving, sorting, storing, and selling, ONE CENT PER POUND; this includes all charges at Depot, except insurance. *Third*, Sales are made for cash, except when otherwise directed by owner.
☞All wool consigned to me should be marked with the owner's name.
Warehouse corner Washington and Exchange streets.
Buffalo, Jan. 1, 1848. T. C. PETERS.

DETROIT SEED STORE AND AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE.—In compliance with the expressed wish of a great number of the intelligent and enterprising farmers of Michigan, the subscribers have established *a seed store and agricultural warehouse* at Detroit, at which will be kept constantly on hand, the choicest varieties of garden, field and flower seeds, obtained from such sources, that they feel no hesitation in recommending them to be of the very best quality. Also, Agricultural and Horticultural implements and labor-saving machines, such as are usually kept at the agricultural warehouses at the East, among which are Pratt's Patent corn-planter and seed drill, Pennock's patent drill (for drilling in wheat and other small grain,) Pitt's thrashing machine, improved harrow, improved cultivator, a great variety of plows, corn shellers, straw cutters and washing machines of the most approved kinds, together with Rich's Beehive, Montgolphier's Hydraulic Ram, Grant's Fanning Mill, Camwheel Churn, &c.
At Nos. 93 and 95 Woodward Avenue, nearly opposite the National Hotel.
Detroit, June 1st. 1848.
F. F. PARKER & BROTHER.